

March 10, 1976

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. The bill that you have before you, the white copy, was printed at Senator Cavanaugh's request. As Senator Kennedy has pointed out, it's difficult to follow the amendments in that bill because they're not underlined, they're printed as new copy. Therefore, I have cooperated with Senator Kennedy because, as the introducer of the bill, I do have some amendments to the Committee amendments. I would be happy to,... if the body chose to do so, to allow me to explain those amendments with which I agree and offer substitute amendments for those which I do not agree with. I think perhaps since it is my bill I could perhaps explain it.

PRESIDENT: The amendments to the amendments are priority in any event, Senator.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Then, Mr. President, I would move to amend the Committee amendments with Senator Kennedy's permission. I would move to amend the Committee amendments. I would then explain my amendments at this time, then I would explain the bill if that meets with the approval of the body as I have explained it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, it's been our practice to discuss the Committee amendments first, then the bill, and then it's open for any amendments to the Committee amendments. Now that's the usual practice in this body. It's a matter of courtesy and it's also something that everybody can rely on. Are you suggesting that we deviate from that and take up your amendments at this time?

SENATOR SCHMIT: No, I would suggest this, that if you want to do that then I would move to divide the question and we would take each Committee amendment, as we discuss it, one by one.

PRESIDENT: And also vote on it, or just discuss it?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would say we should vote on it.

PRESIDENT: That would be up to the mover.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would just like to say further that I'm prepared to explain those amendments with which I agree. I would be prepared to explain those amendments with which I do not agree and to offer substitute amendments. I think that perhaps we can proceed because, as has been pointed out, there's been a lot of work done on the bill, there's been a lot of amendments. The Committee amendments are very complicated. It isn't really wise to take all of the time to explain the Committee amendments because I do believe that, in some instances at least, I will be able to prevail with my amendments to the Committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Alright. Senator Kelly, you're also a member of the Committee.

SENATOR KELLY: Well, Mr. President....